REMARKS

Claims 4-9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is canceled, without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein, and claims 4-7 are amended. Claim 4 is amended to include the features of claim 1. Claims 5-7 are amended for form. No new matter is added. In view of at least the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 7-9, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4-6. Claim 4 is amended into independent form to include the features of independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 4 is allowable. Claims 5 and 6 depend from independent claim 4. Thus, Applicants submit that these claims are also allowable as they depend from allowable independent claim 4.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. In particular, the Office Action asserts that "said locking pawl" in claims 5 and 6 lack antecedent basis. This rejection is respectfully traversed. By this Amendment, claims 5 and 6 are amended to depend from claim 4, which provides proper antecedent basis for "said locking pawl," as suggested by the Office Action. Thus, claims 5 and 6 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Takano (U.S. Patent No. 6,186,263) in view of Kinsey (U.S. Patent No. 3,856,123). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The cancellation of claim 1 and the previous cancellation of claims 2 and 3 render the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of at least the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 30, 2007

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